

Public Utilities Commission

The Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission (GRPUC) was established in 1910. The GRPUC provides leadership for the direction of the municipal utility. They establish policy, manage capital investments and organize the business framework. The Commission includes President Steve Welliver, Secretary Glen Hodgson, Commissioners Dale Adams, June Johnson and Greg Chandler. We welcome your participation in the public forum section of our regular monthly meetings held on the second Wednesday of the month at the PW/PUC service center.

The GRPUC is issuing the results of monitoring done on its drinking water for the period January 1 to December 31, 2008.

This year again brings good news that no contaminants were detected at levels that violated the federal drinking water standards.

The GRPUC provides drinking water to its residents from a groundwater source: Five wells ranging from 140-572 feet deep, that draw water from the Quaternary Buried Artesian, Indeterminate, and Quaternary Buried Unconfined Aquifers.

The water provided to customers may beat drinking water standards, but the Minnesota Department of Health has also made a determination as to how vulnerable the source of water may be to future contamination incidents. If you wish to obtain the entire source water assessment regarding your drinking water, please call 651-201-4700 or 1-800-818-9318 (and press 5) during normal business hours. Also, you can view it online at www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/swa.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production and mining or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Special Feature: Water Conservation

Your help in the efficient use of water will reduce the need for implementing water restrictions. Check for leaks in your home and at outside fixtures. Leaks will needlessly cause your water bill to increase.



Make A Difference

You can save water by following these tips:

Indoors

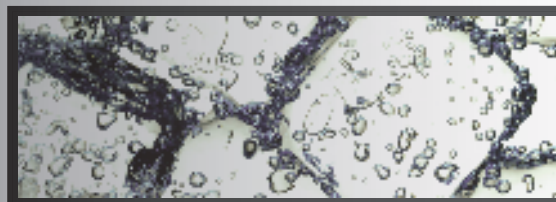
- ◆ Check your toilet for "silent" leaks by placing a little food coloring in the tank and seeing if it leaks into the bowl.
- ◆ Keep a gallon of drinking water in the refrigerator rather than running the tap for cold water. This also makes the water taste better.
- ◆ Run your washing machine with a full load of clothes in cold water when possible.

Outdoors

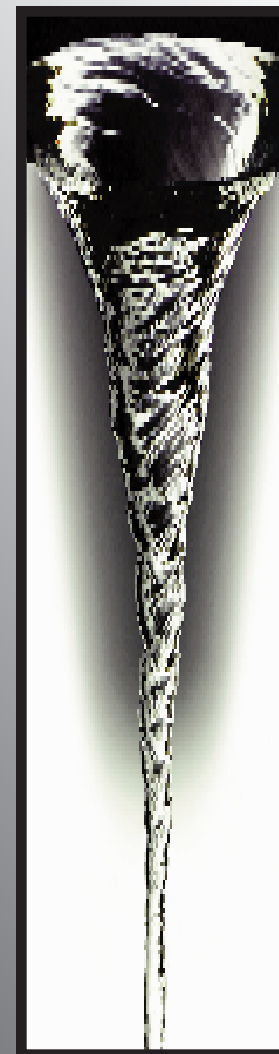
- ◆ Use drought-tolerant plants and grasses for landscaping and reduce grass-covered areas.
- ◆ Cut your grass at least two to three inches high to shade the roots, making it more drought tolerant; keep your mower sharp for the healthiest grass.
- ◆ Install a rain sensor on the irrigation system.
- ◆ If your grass springs back when you step on it, it doesn't need watering.
- ◆ If it rains an inch or more, wait at least five days to water again.
- ◆ Use a sprinkler that delivers large drops, rather than a fine mist.
- ◆ Let the clippings lie on the ground. This shades the soil to prevent evaporation.
- ◆ Let your lawn go dormant during the hot summer months. This saves money and time spent mowing.
- ◆ Spread mulch around flowerbeds, shrubs and trees. This will reduce the water requirements for your landscape.

For more information log on to

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water> or
<http://www.mrwa.com/>



Grand Rapids Drinking Water Quality Report 2008



If you have questions about the Grand Rapids Public Utilities Commission's drinking water or would like information about opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water, please call:

Dennis Doyle
Water Department Manager
or
Anthony Ward
GRPUC General Manager
at
212-326-7024